Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

According to another embodiment of the present invention, a workflow processor and a rules engine are integrated to accommodate the production of correlation data between the operation performed and the rule used to execute the workflow operation. XML formatted messages can be used to accommodate passage of a business item ~~though~~ <u>through</u> a workflow process. In another embodiment of the invention, a human-readable declarative business rule language expressed in terms of "if, then" statements can be used to define and input new rules based on meta definitions of the desired new rules.